

May 2

Ephesians 1:4-5, 10-11

“Predestined?”

⁴ According as he hath
chosen us in him before
the foundation of the
world, that we should be
holy and without blame
before him in love:

⁵ Having **predestinated**
us unto the adoption of
children by Jesus Christ

to himself, according to
the good pleasure of his
will, ¹⁰ That in the
dispensation of the
fulness of times he might
gather together in one all
things in Christ, both
which are in heaven, and
which are on earth; even
in him: ¹¹ In whom also
we have obtained an
inheritance, being
predestinated
according to the purpose
of him who worketh all

things after the counsel
of his own will:

We are “chosen”?
Yes, but chosen for
what? “That we
should be holy and
without blame
before him
in love.”

Are there some who
are given an

automatically
reserved seat on
that heaven-bound
train? Predestined,
as some use the
term, means, to
them, to have been
given a guaranteed
spot—no matter
what.

However, no one is
forced to receive the

inheritance and no
one is rejected who
comes to Christ
in humility and
sincerity. Everyone
has a chance.

Likewise, everyone
has a choice. Every
soul gets to decide
about their own
eternal destination.

An example which
may help to better
understand
scriptural
predestination is to
see it as having a
reservation for a
room at the most
luxurious hotel ever.
Though the rate has
been paid, you can
still choose to check

in or you can decline
the reservation
altogether. There is
no mandate to claim
the stay.

That plainly applies
to clear-thinking
minds which are
mature enough to
decide about
eternity. This
passage does not

address those who
may appear to not
have the mental
capacity to
understand such
options, including
very young children.

The fact of the
matter is that we
really just don't
know everything—
particularly about
things we can't

physically see to
prove or disprove.
So, we may take this
passage, as one of
many, which gives
us a glimpse and a
guideline, rather
than as a hard tenet
for what is so versus
what is not so.

As for
predestination, we

may accept what
we understand in
relation to our
responsibility
concerning
our own final
destination.